

MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS

REPORT FOR:

MONTH

YEAR

February

2002

TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2
NOAA / National Weather Service
1325 East West Highway, Room 7230
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283

SIGNATURE

Jim Stefkovich, MIC
In Charge of HSA

DATE

March 7th , 2002

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (WSOME-41)

The month of February was considerably drier than the previous 2 months. A series progressive frontal systems pushed through the state during the month. The month began with a front pushing through the area with rainfall amounts less than 3/4 of inch. On the 5th and 6th, an upper air system pushed through central areas and a surface low pressure area moved through southern sections. Rainfall amounts around 1.50 inches or less were common. On the 9th, 10th and 21st, 22nd, very light rainfall, 1/4 inch or less, was reported over the HSA. A strong very fast moving cold front pushed through on the 25th and 26th. Scattered rainfall amounts less than 1/4 inch were reported.

The most significant event of the month occurred late on the 19th into the 20th when a another cold front moved across the area. Rainfall amounts were heaviest over the Lower Yazoo River basin. Rainfall amounts in this area ranged from 1 to near 3½ inches. Over northeast LA, central and southwest MS, rainfall amounts ranged from 1 to 2 inches. Rainfall amounts over southern and southeastern MS ranged from 3/4 of an inch to 1½ inches. Heaviest 24 hour rainfall amounts were at Valley Hill, MS (3.34 inches), Grenada 5NNE, MS (2.29 inches), Ross Barnett Reservoir, MS (2.20 inches), Leland 5NE, MS (2.15 inches), Larto Lake 25S, LA (2.10 inches), and Moorehead, MS (2.07 inches).

Below normal rainfall during the month of February allowed soils to dry out a little in northeast LA, southeast AR, north and central MS. However, soil moisture in these areas continued to remain above normal. The Big black river again experienced minor to moderate flooding. The Yalobusha at Whaley remained above flood stage for the 3rd consecutive month. The Lower Yazoo at Yazoo City experienced only minor flooding. The Upper Pearl at Philadelphia also experienced minor flooding. Soil conditions were near normal over most of southern MS with exception of southeast portions where below normal soil conditions were noted.

RIVER BASIN

RAINFALL

DEPARTURE FROM NORMS

Southeast Arkansas
(Chicot & Ashley
counties)

around 3.00 inches

Well below normal

<i>northeast Louisiana (Tensas, Boeuf, Bayou Macon & Lower Ouachita)</i>	<i>2.50 to 6.25 inches</i>	<i>Much below normal over northern & central sections to near normal to above normal over southern sections.</i>
<i>Lower Yazoo</i>	<i>2.75 to 4.25 inches</i>	<i>Just below normal over the northern sections to much below normal over southern sections.</i>
<i>Big Black</i>	<i>3.00 to 4.50 inches</i>	<i>Much below normal over upper basin to just below normal over the lower basin.</i>
<i>Homochitto/ Bayou Pierre</i>	<i>4.00 to 5.00 inches</i>	<i>Near Normal over Bayou Pierre to below normal over the Homochitto.</i>
<i>Pearl (abv Jackson)</i>	<i>3.75 to 4.50 inches</i>	<i>Below normal.</i>
<i>Pearl (Blo Jackson)</i>	<i>3.00 to 3.75 inches</i>	<i>Much below normal.</i>
<i>Pascagoula</i>	<i>2.50 to 4.00 inches</i>	<i>Much below normal.</i>

The heaviest rainfall amounts in the HSA for the month were 6.29 inches at Jonesville L/D, LA; 4.92 inches at Port Gibson, MS; 4.62 inches at Larto Lake, MS; 4.51 inches at Gholson 8W, MS; 4.45 inches at Oakley Experimental Station, MS; 4.34 inches at Edinburg, MS;

Here at the WFO, the February monthly rainfall was 3.05 inches, which was 1.45 inches below normal. We have had 8.65 inches thus far this year which is 1.52 inches below normal.

The Mississippi River was above seasonal norms during the first half of the months at Arkansas City, AR and Greenville, MS. The river at Vicksburg and Natchez stayed above normal almost to the end of the month. By months end, the river was well below seasonal norms from Arkansas City to Natchez. The provisional high and low stages for February are listed below:

<i>Location</i>	<i>High Stage(ft)</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Low Stage(ft)</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>Arkansas City, AR</i>	<i>29.45</i>	<i>02/08</i>	<i>10.65</i>	<i>02/28</i>
<i>Greenville, MS</i>	<i>40.99</i>	<i>02/08</i>	<i>22.65</i>	<i>02/28</i>
<i>Vicksburg, MS</i>	<i>36.22</i>	<i>02/10</i>	<i>19.18</i>	<i>02/28</i>
<i>Natchez, MS</i>	<i>44.05</i>	<i>02/10</i>	<i>28.56</i>	<i>02/28</i>

Total Flood Warning products issued: 07
Total Flood Statement products issued: 105
Daily Rainfall Products (RRA'S) issued 31
Daily River Forecast Products (RVS'S) issued 31
Daily River Stage products (RVA'S) issued 31

Marty V. Pope
Service Hydrologist

cc: USGS Little Rock District
USGS Ruston District
USCE Mobile District
USCE Vicksburg District
USCE Mississippi Valley Division
USGS Mississippi District
SRH Climate, Weather and Water Division
LMRFC
Pearl River Valley Water Supply District
Hydrologic Information Center
Southern Region Climate Center